

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

DIVISION OF STATEWIDE PLANNING

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April 21, 2000

The Honorable Joe Bereskin  
Mayor, City of Akutan  
P.O. Box 19  
Akutan, AK 99553

Dear Mayor Bereskin:

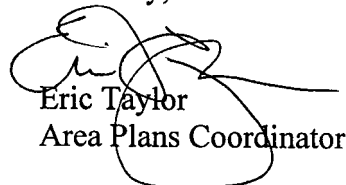
Thank you for your letter of April 14 concerning the Draft Airport Improvement Analysis for the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. I am in complete agreement with your observations and I regret the errors that were made in the analysis, particularly the misrepresentation of Akutan's air traffic volumes. We thought it important enough for people to review the information prior to the April SWAMC meeting in Dillingham, and therefore we went ahead and mailed it out before noting its shortcomings.

We have uncovered several deficiencies in the data that went into the analysis and are taking steps to correct both the data and the analysis approach in order to produce a more credible document, tentatively in June. The information you have provided is very helpful and we will make sure we use it as a measuring stick for the corrected data and projections.

The Airport Master Plan for Akutan is being done independently of the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. However, FAA enplanement data should be consistent between both studies. We recognize, though, that FAA enplanement data, particularly in the more remote communities, fails to adequately account for the volume of movements by independent air taxi operators and bypass mail delivery. This element was missing from the data evaluated in the draft analysis. It will be included in the revision.

Thank you for taking the time to review this document and send me your concerns. Please feel free to call me at 1-888-PLANDOT if you have other questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Eric Taylor  
Area Plans Coordinator